



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2667

dental care; treatment; volunteer care

Purpose

Expands immunity from liability in a medical malpractice action to dental professionals providing services in connection with a nonprofit clinic.

Background

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-571, a health professional who provides medical, optometric or dental treatment, care or screening within the scope of the health professional's certificate or license at a nonprofit clinic where neither the professional nor the nonprofit clinic receives compensation for any treatment, care or screening provided at the nonprofit clinic is not liable in a medical malpractice action, unless the health professional was grossly negligent. *Nonprofit clinic* includes a clinic, an office, a homeless or other shelter, a health or screening fair or any other setting where treatment, care or screening is provided at no cost to the patient.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Requires a health professional provide services *in connection with* a nonprofit clinic, instead of *at* a nonprofit clinic, in order to qualify for immunity from liability in a medical malpractice action.
2. Includes a dental professional's private office or the patient's place of residence as a nonprofit clinic for individuals who have been referred by a nonprofit clinic.
3. Prohibits a dental professional providing services to individuals referred by a nonprofit clinic in a private office setting or in a patient's place of residence from receiving any payment or compensation, either direct or indirect, or from having the expectation of payment or compensation for any dental care or treatment services provided.
4. Defines *dental professional* as a licensed dentist, a licensed dental hygienist and a certified denturist.
5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

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House Action

Health	2/16/16	DP	6-0-0
3 rd Read	3/02/16		54-4-2

Prepared by Senate Research

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